POPULATION, POOR'S RATE, &c.

RETURN to an ORDER of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 4 March 1847;—*for*,

A RETURN "shewing the Population, the Annual Value of Property rated to the Poor's RATE, the Expenditure for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, the Rate in the Pound on the Value of *Rated* Property of such Expenditure, the Total Number of Paupers Relieved, including Casual Poor, the Proportion per Cent. to the Population of the Persons Relieved, and the Rate per Head of the Expenditure on the Total Number of Paupers Relieved, according to the last Returns which have been laid before Parliament, in *England* and *Wales*, *Scotland* and *Ireland* respectively."

	Population in 1841	Annual Value of Property Rated to the Poor Rates.	Expenditure for the Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, Year 1844–5.	Rate in the Pound of Expenditure for Relief, &c. of the Poor on Annual Value of Property Rated to the Poor's Rate.	[y] Total Number of Paupers Relieved, including Casual Poor	Proportion per Cent. to Population	Rate per Head of Expenditure on Total Number of Paupers Relieved.
		£	£.	s. d.			£. s. d.
England and Wales	16,900,741	[1] 82,540,030	5,030,703	1 7½	[4] 1,470,970	9·2	3 8 0½
Scotland	2,620,184	[2] 9,820,784	[2] 208,830	– 7½	86,826	3·7	2 – 0½
Ireland	8,175,124	[3] 13,904,284	[3] 208,813	[5] – 0½	126,774	1·6	2 7 0½

[1] Assessed to the poor-rates for 1841. *See* Parliamentary Paper, No. 230, Sess. 1840.
[2] For the year 1845. *See* First Annual Report, Poor-rates, Scotland, presented to Parliament Sess. 1847.
[3] Assessed to poor rates for the year 1845. *See* Commissioners' Twelfth Annual Report, p. 226.
[4] From February 1846 to February 1846.
[5] The expenditure of 113 unions, the total number being 130.
[6] The calculation is made on the annual value of the 113 unions (12,305,784 *l.*).
[7] The returns for *England* and *Wales* are for the quarter ended Lady-day 1845; for *Scotland*, for the year ended February 1846; for *Ireland*, year ended 1st January 1846. An estimate is made for unions and places from which no returns were received.
[8] Of this number of persons relieved during the quarter ended Lady-day 1845, a large proportion were permanent paupers, but the new cases in the other three quarters may be estimated at half a million; so that the number relieved in England and Wales during the year may be stated at about two millions. It is to be observed that the absolute accuracy of these returns cannot be safely relied on, owing to the difficulty of preventing the same person, if he becomes chargeable on several occasions, or in different unions, from being reckoned more than once. *See* the remarks in the Eleventh Annual Report of the Poor-law Commissioners, p. 4, and the Twelfth Annual Report, p. 8.

Poor-law Commission Office,
8 March 1847.

W. G. LUMLEY,
Assistant Secretary

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